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ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH

of the

Rural District of Dursley

for the Year 1952

by the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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by

W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

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Assistant Sanitary Inspector : C. W. R. Fisher, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I.

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Public Health Department Clerk : Miss M. Strange.

DURSLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
Kingshill,
Dursley, Glos.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1952

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting by Sixth Annual Report to you for your consideration.

The Report is based in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 2/53 of the 22nd January, 1953. This refers to Articles 6(3) and 17(5) of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations, 1935, and Article 14(3) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926, and requests that the Council will direct that the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health should follow the general lines indicated and include the information also asked for in Circular 42/51 dated 10th December, 1951.

In relation to the General Health of the District during the Year, this has been relatively good. There has been no epidemic of any significance. 255 cases of Infectious Disease were notified to the Authority by General Practitioners as compared with 449 in the previous Year and of this number 172 were notifications of Measles, which were a hangover from the biennial epidemic of the previous Year.

The Death Rate is the lowest ever recorded in the District and is now well below that for England and Wales as a whole. Unfortunately the Birth Rate still continues to fall. In 1948 it was 18.1; this year it has fallen to the low figure of 14.78, even when adjusted with the comparability factor, which takes into consideration sex and age distribution in the whole country. This recent figure is now below that for England and Wales as a whole. One wonders, whether in view of this fall, the Lettings Committee might take into consideration the possibility of allocating a certain percentage of their new houses to young couples who are getting married so as to stimulate earlier marriage and the possibility of having families sooner in better surroundings.

The work of the Health Department has continued to increase in relation to environment hygiene. I think we have made some progress during the Year in the continuation of our Food Hygiene Campaign. Shopkeepers generally seem more conscious now of what is required from them in the production of safe Food. The Inspectors have continued to take an interest in the production of clean and safe milk and ice cream in the district and during the

Year they have continued to work on the survey of all premises in which alcohol is consumed by the public.

The Housing situation has improved considerably during the past few years and I would like here to congratulate the Council on the energy and drive that they have put into this important Public Health problem.

I think the time has now come when the Council should survey and prepare schemes of slum clearance, particularly in the Dursley and Wotton-under-Edge areas. This could be done slowly over the next five years and so not interefere too much with the general applicants for Council Houses.

It seems rather a pity that there has been so much delay in presenting the detailed comprehensive water and sewerage schemes to the Ministry. The great need for these has been indicated in many ways during the Year by the complaints over shortage of water, the number of nuisances dealt with by the Sanitary Inspectors and the present gross overloading of both the Dursley and Wotton-under-Edge Sewage Works. Let us hope that before 1953 is out, both these schemes will be with the Ministry in detail and that in the very near future both schemes will be granted in full.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector will be reporting to you on other branches of the work of your Public Health Department, so it remains for me to express again my appreciation of the support and encouragement given to me during the Year by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and of the staff of the Public Health Department and other Departments of the Council for their support and loyalty during the Year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Dursley Rural District Council.

PART I.

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1.—SOCIAL CONDITIONS

No important change has taken place in the nature of the chief trades carried out in the district. They are :—

(1) Agriculture and Allied Trades.
(2) Braid and Loom Elastic and Smallwares.
(3) Flour Mill.
(4) Baking.
(5) General Engineering.
(6) Electrical Engineering.
(7) Carpet Manufacturing.
(8) Cloth Manufacturing.
(9) Paper Pulping Mills.
(10) Fibre Box Manufacturers.
(11) Wood Turneries.

2.—STATISTICS, 1952

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District	26,905 acres
Population	17,020
Number of inhabited properties ...	5,270
Number of inhabitants per property ...	3.229
Rateable Value	£72,804
Sum represented by 1d. Rate ...	£288
Number of Council Houses	1,158
Number of Requisitioned Houses ...	23
Percentage of Council Houses ...	21.97

Inhabited Properties :

Houses	4,905
Farms	171
Houses and Shops	144
Public Houses	50
Total :	5,293

Percentage of population served byf Main water 95%
Percentage of population served by modern sewers 72%
(includes Council Houses connected to small disposal plants).

Varying Populations of Dursley Rural District.

Year	Population
1901	11,636
1911	12,233
1921	12,560
1931	13,217

Year	Population
1937	14,400
1938	14,600
1939	16,122
1946	16,220
1947	16,290
1948	16,610
1949	16,870
1950	17,080
1951	16,985
1952	17,020

Urban and Rural District Populations

Proposals have been made by the County Health Committee during the Year to extend the areas of Administration of District and Divisional Medical Officers. For this reason I think it would be advantageous and interesting to Councillors if the Registrar General's Estimate of Population at Mid 1952 were published in full for the whole of the Administrative County :

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF POPULATION (GLOUCESTERSHIRE) AT MID 1952

Urban	Total
Charlton Kings U.D.	5,814
Cheltenham M.B.	65,060
Cirencester U.D.	11,560
Kingswood U.D.	18,570
Mangotsfield U.D.	18,290
Nailsworth U.D.	3,630
Stroud U.D.	16,030
Tewkesbury M.B.	5,446
Total U.D.	144,400
Rural	
Cheltenham R.D.	24,010
Cirencester R.D.	17,690
Dursley R.D.	17,020
East Dean R.D.	20,330
Gloucester R.D.	38,370
Lydney R.D.	11,820
Newent R.D.	8,121
North Cotswold R.D.	21,520
Northleach R.D.	8,625
Sodbury R.D.	38,080
Stroud R.D.	27,240
Tetbury	6,964
Thornbury R.D.	25,310

Warmley R.D.	10,410
West Dean R.D.	17,890
Total R.D.	293,400
Administrative County ...	437,800

(b) EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births :

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	223	131	92
Illegitimate	10	4	6
Total :	233	135	98

Percentage of Boys to Girls born : 58 : 42.

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 Population Mid 1952	13.69
Birth Rate, England and Wales per 1,000 Civilian Population	15.3
Comparability Factor for Births is	1.08
Therefore Birth Rate (comparable) 1.08 x 13.69=	14.78

Still Births :

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	5	2	3
Illegitimate	4	2	2
Total :	9	4	5

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	0.53
Still Birth Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 Civilian Population	0.35
Still Births (per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births)	37.2
Still Births (per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births, England and Wales)	22.6

Deaths :

Number of Deaths registered in Dursley Rural District	160

92 of these were Males and 68 Females.

Percentage of Males to Females who died:	57.5 : 42.5
Crude Death Rate in Dursley Rural District 1952 per 1,000 Civilian Population	9.40
Death Rate, England and Wales per 1,000 Civilian Population	11.3
Death Rate in 160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London) ...	12.1
Death Rate in 160 Smaller Towns ...	11.2
Death Rate in London Administrative County	12.6
The average age of Male Deaths in Dursley during the year was ...	66.27 years

The average age of Female Deaths in Dursley during the year was ...	66.01 years
Making the average age of all deaths during the year in Dursley	66.16 years
Comparability Factor for Deaths is ...	0.96

Therefore Death Rate (comparable) 0.96 x 9.40=9.02

Deaths in Parishes

Parish	Deaths took place in the Parish	Death took place in hospital, or while temporarily residing outside the Parish	Total
Wotton-under-Edge ...	24	14	38
Cam	27	4	31
Coaley	5	1	6
Dursley	26	17	43
North Nibley	5	—	5
Nympsfield	1	2	3
Kingswood	8	2	10
Slimbridge}	6	1	7
Cambridge}	2	—	2
Stinchcombe	1	1	2
Uley	10	3	13
TOTALS	115	45	160

Months of the Year in which Deaths took place

Month	Deaths that occurred within the district	Deaths that occurred in hospital or while temporarily resident outside the area.	Total
January	5	3	8
February	14	6	20
March	12	8	20
April	13	1	14
May	7	2	9
June	8	4	12
July	10	3	13
August	8	5	13
September	10	4	14
October	6	4	10
November	7	1	8
December	15	4	19
TOTALS	115	45	160

Again it is obvious that February and March are the months of the year when many old people succumb to intercurrent infections.

Deaths in Age Groups

Ages at Death	Males	Females	Total
0— 1 year	4	2	6
1— 5 years	—	—	—
5— 10 years	1	—	1
10— 20 years	1	2	3
20 — 30 years	—	1	1
30— 40 years	2	—	2
40— 50 years	6	2	8
50— 60 years	9	10	19
60— 70 years	18	16	34
70— 80 years	27	27	54
80— 90 years	21	7	28
90—100 years	3	1	4
Totals :	92	68	160

The oldest inhabitant to die during the Year was 95 years old.

Deaths in Hospital

Royal Hospital, Gloucester	10
Brompton Hospital, London	1
Snowden Road Hospital, Bristol	2
Southmead Hospital, Bristol	4
Thornbury Hospital	6
Berkeley Hospital	5
Kingsway Nursing Home	1
Bristol Royal Infirmary	2
Ham Green Hospital	1
Frenchay Hospital	1
Horton Road Hospital, Bristol	1
St. Paul's Hospital, Cheltenham	2
Newbury District Hospital	1
City Maternity Hospital, Gloucester	1
Stroud General Hospital	1
Coney Hill Hospital, Barnwood	1
Northleach Hospital	1
Bristol Children's Hospital	1
Total :	42

Therefore 26.2 per cent. of the deaths in the District took place in hospitals outside the precincts of Dursley Rural area.

Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, Childbirth

From Sepsis	Nil
From other causes	Nil
Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still births)	Nil

This Rate has been nil for the past six years and speaks highly of the care given to the mothers during childbirth by the local midwives, General Practitioners, Hospitals and Nursing Homes.

Deaths of Infants under 1 Year :

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	Nil	1	1
Totals :	4	2	6

Sex	Age	Deaths of Infants under 1 Year. Cause of Death :
At Home		
Male	3 days	Bronchial Pneumonia; incomplete expansion of lungs. P.M.
Male	3 days	Congenital Heart Defect.
Female	1 hour	Crushed chest—dead body from canal.
In Hospital		
Female	20 mins.	Hydrocephelus and spina bifida.
Male	1 day	Prematurity (24—26 weeks)
Male	1 hour	Birth Injuries.

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	—	1	1
Totals :	4	2	6

Infant Mortality Rate :

Death Rate of Infants under 1 Year of age per 1,000 live births	25.7
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales	27.6
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.4
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	100

Tuberculosis Deaths :

There were 5 deaths attributed to Tuberculosis—3 males and 2 females.

Four of these were pulmonary and one non-pulmonary.

The average age of these deaths were 33.6 years.

A girl of 16 years died from T.B. Meningitis and Pulmonary T.B. and a boy of 8 years died from primary T.B. complex.

Coronary Thrombosis Deaths :

There were 18 deaths from this disease during the Year.
Eleven of these were males and seven females.
The average age of the Coronary Deaths was 68.2 years
The most common causes of death in this district are therefore:

	1951	1952
Heart Disease	65 cases	50 cases
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	33 cases	28 cases
Cancer	16 cases	33 cases
Infant Deaths	4 cases	6 cases
Pneumonia	13 cases	4 cases
Tuberculosis	2 cases	5 cases
Bronchitis	7 cases	1 case
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	19 cases	14 cases
All Other Accidents	4 cases	2 cases

It is significant that Cancer has now taken second place to Heart Disease as the most common cause of death in the District.

COMPARABLE TABLES FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS

Birth Rates, Dursley Rural District.

1947	17.4		
1948	18.1	1950 England & Wales	15.8
1949	15.8	1951 England & Wales	15.5
1950	15.6	1952 England & Wales	15.3
1951	15.79		
1952	14.78		

Death Rates, Dursley Rural District

1947	10.8		
1948	9.3	1950 England & Wales	11.6
1949	12.03	1951 England & Wales	12.5
1950	11.4	1952 England & Wales	11.3
1951	10.34		
1952	9.02		

Average age of Death, Dursley Rural District

1948	63.5 years
1949	61.3 years
1950	64.88 years
1951	68.05 years
1952	66.27 years

Infant Mortality Rates, Dursley Rural District

1947	23.9		
1948	19.6	1950 England & Wales	29.8
1949	22.6	1951 England & Wales	29.6
1950	29.9	1952 England & Wales	27.6
1951	16.2		
1952	25.7		

Authority :

DURSLEY R.D.C. CAUSES OF DEATHS. Year 1952

			Under 1 year	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—	*Total*
1.	Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	1			1		1	2			4
2.	Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	2				1					1
3.	Syphilitic disease	3						1			1
4.	Diphtheria	4									—
5.	Whooping Cough	5									—
6.	Meningococcal infections	6									—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	7									—
8.	Measles	8									—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	9									—
10.	Malignant neoplasm of stomach ..	10						2	1		3
11.	Malignant neoplasm of lung & bronchus	11					1	1	1		3
12.	Malignant neoplasm of breast ..	12						3	4	2	9
13.	Malignant neoplasm of uterus ..	13						1	1		2
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	14					2	3	6	5	16
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	15									—
16.	Diabetes	16								1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	17						6	6	16	28
18.	Coronary disease, angina	18					1	5	7	5	18
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ..	19						3		1	4
20.	Other heart disease	20			1		1	2	9	15	28
21.	Other circulatory disease	21						1	2	2	5
22.	Influenza	22									—
23.	Pneumonia	23	1					2		1	4
24.	Bronchitis	24								1	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ..	25								3	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	26						1	1		2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	27									—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	28								1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	29							1	2	3
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	30									—
31.	Congenital malformations	31	3								3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	32	1			1	1	2		9	14
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	33						1			1
34.	All other accidents	34						2			2
35.	Suicide	35						2			2
36.	Homicide and operations of war ..	36	1								1

TOTAL 160.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS, 1952

DISEASE	*Under* 1 *year*	1 *year*	2 *years*	3 *years*	4—5 *years*	6—9 *years*	10—14 *years*	15—19 *years*	20—34 *years*	35—44 *years*	45—65 *years*	*Over* 65 *years*	*Age unknown*	*TOTAL*
Scarlet Fever			1	3	13	10	5	2	1	2				37
Diphtheria														--
Puer. Pyrexia									2	1				3
Pneumonia	1				1				1	1	2	1		7
Erysipelas												1		1
Dysentery														—
OphthalmiaN.														--
Anterior Polio					1									1
Malaria														---
Whooping C.	1	5	6	8	10	3	1							34
Measles	3	17	22	22	65	39	1		3					172
Cereb. Sp. F.														—
Typhoid														—
Undulant Fev.														—

Total 255

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1952

	Dursley Rural District	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns in England and Wales	London Administrative County
Deaths					
All Causes	9.02	11.3	12.1	11.2	12.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.29	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.31
Influenza	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	0.23	0.47	0.52	0.43	0.58
Notifications (Corrected)					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01
Meningococcal Infection	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Scarlet Fever	2.17	1.53	1.75	1.58	1.56
Whooping Cough	1.99	2.61	2.74	2.57	1.66
Diphtheria	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01
Erysipelas	0.05	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.14
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	10.10	8.86	10.11	8.49	9.23
Pneumonia	0.41	0.72	0.80	0.62	0.57
Acute Poliomyelitis :					
Paralytic	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Non-Paralytic	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Food Poisoning	0.00	0.13	0.16	0.11	0.18
Deaths	*Rates per* 1,000	*Live Births*			
All causes under 1 year of age ..	25.7	27.6	31.2	25.8	23.8
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	0.0	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.7
Notifications (Corrected)	Rates per 1,000	*Total (Live and*	*Still) Births*		
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia ..	16.80	17.87	23.94	10.22	30.77

3.—CANCER

33 of the deaths occurred from Cancer of various types—20 of these were females and 13 males.

The average age of female deaths from Cancer was 65.3 years.

The average age of male Cancer deaths was 63.0 years.

Making the average age from all Cancer deaths in the Area during 1952 64.5 years as compared with the comprehensive age of death for the district of 66.16 years.

The types of Cancer causing these deaths are as follows :—

Cancer of the Breast	9 cases
Cancer of the Stomach	3 cases
Cancer of the Colon	3 cases
Cancer of the Lung or Bronchus	3 cases
Cancer of the Cervix or Uterus	3 cases
Cancer of Rectum	1 case
Cancer of Prostate	2 cases
Cancer of Bladder	2 cases
Cancer of Ovary	1 case
Cancer of Larynx	1 case
Cancer of Liver	1 case
Cancer of Caecum	1 case
Cancer of Bone	1 case
Cancer of Oesophagus	1 case
Cancer of Brain	1 case
TOTAL :	33 cases

It is obvious from this long list of types of the disease that Cancer can affect practically every important organ in the body. Only nine of the deaths occurred in hospitals and as most hospitals to-day will not accept chronic cases where the outlook is hopeless, it is more than certain that the other 24 cases were not discovered until the outlook was so hopeless that hospitalisation would have been of no avail. This again emphasises the point I have tried to make before—the public must be educated concerning the early diagnosis of cancer. One should not wait for pain before attending the General Practitioner for an examination. Anything abnormal that occurs over the age of 45 years, e.g., bleeding from the rectum, coughing up blood, vomiting blood, a lump in the breast, abnormal menstruation, prolonged hoarseness in the throat, an ulcer in the mouth or tongue that will not heal; these signs should send one straight away to the Doctor for examination. These things do not indicate that one has cancer as there are many other causes which give the same symptoms. However, it is better to be safe than sorry and prevention is always better than the cure. The General Public must get rid of the fear of cancer—this, in many instances, causes the patient to refrain from going to the doctor.

It is only when patients get rid of this fear that we will be able to get cancer cases in the early stage when surgery and treatment can do an awful lot of good. When the stage of pain has been reached in cancer it is usually too late to do anything, so the foreword for everyone in relation to cancer should be "Don't wait for pain, if anything abnormal is discovered, go and visit your doctor and ask his advice," and don't be afraid to tell him what you have discovered yourself, and the part of the body that you wish him to examine.

When one thinks that 9 women died from Cancer of the Breast in this District during the Year, and with education, early diagnosis and the new methods of treatment, some, at least, might have been alive to-day; it is time for us to awaken our ideas on the eradication of the Cancer Phobia.

Meanwhile research must go on into the cause and cure of this killing disease but we as individuals can do a lot ourselves by preventative examinations periodically.

4.—RHEUMATIC FEVER

Two females aged 11 and 41 years died from the after-effects of attacks of rheumatic fever. They both succumbed to Rheumatic Endocarditis. This used to be quite a common cause of death in the early age groups but it is relatively rare to-day probably because of the increased standard of living generally and the better housing conditions. The newer drugs have also had a big influence in preventing the complication of heart disease.

5.—INFECTIOUS DISEASE

General Remarks :

This district was relatively free from infectious disease during 1952. There were only 255 cases notified to the Authority as compared with 449 in the previous Year.

The Measles epidemic of 1951 was carried over into the early months of 1952 with the result that 172 cases were notified. All the cases reported were of a mild character and one seldom saw the complications of the disease, i.e., Mastoids, Acute Otitis Medias and Chronic Bronchitis that one used to see before the advent of the sulphonamide group of drugs and the newer antibiotics. Measles to-day is more of a nuisance to parent and child than a menace to health as it was in years gone by.

The question of prevention of infection is still very difficult as practically all the damage has been done in the early stages when the child has got symptoms like an ordinary cold and the condition is not diagnosed as Measles until some 3 or 4 days later when the rash appears. I often feel it is a tremendous loss of school time to restrict young contacts of a case from attending school when they are allowed by parents to play and mix with their pals after school hours. The educational committee still advise that young contacts should be kept from school, so until they revise their procedure there is not much use in suggesting otherwise.

The number of cases of Whooping Cough was much reduced this year as compared with last—from 94 to 34. None of these were admitted to hospitals, but even so an inestimatable amount of damage is done by this disease to young children. Many of the Chronic Bronchitis and early cases of Tuberculosis arise as an aftermath of this disease.

These complications, however, can be avoided by preventative inoculation with the new American Whooping Cough Vaccine in early childhood either combined with Diphtheria antitoxin or on its own.

New drugs are now also available for treatment of this disease so I would like to make the point here that mothers should not nurse the child themselves but should call in their doctor to see the child as soon as possible after the onset.

The Scarlet Fever we see to-day is usually so mild that the mother finds it difficult to keep the child isolated for the specified time. This year we have had 37 cases notified as compared with 44 last year. Two of the children were admitted to Over Isolation Hospital on social grounds because of the difficulty of isolation in their own homes, and the possibility of spreading the disease among the other members of the family.

Again in relation to contacts of scarlet fever being kept from school for the regulation ten days, I feel that it does little to stop the spread of infection as more damage is done by the children wandering around the estate with nothing to do, than when they are at school under discipline. In my estimation, there is no difference between a child with a streptococcal sore throat being allowed to remain at school with his or her direct contacts and a case of scarlet fever and his or her associated contacts.

There has been relatively few cases of Infantile Paralysis all over the whole country during the Year. The case rate was only .06 per 1,000 home population. Only one case occurred in this district—that was a boy aged 4 years who was admitted to Ham Green Isolation Hospital, Bristol, with paralysis of his face and palate and weakness of both arms and legs. All known preventative measures were taken in the Estate where the case occurred.

The boy made a complete recovery.

Three cases of Puerpural Pyrexia were reported within the District. This disease following pregnancy is now luckily very rare due to the more aseptic methods of confinement and the use of the sulphonamide drugs. Two of the cases were removed to Berkeley Hospital for treatment and both made an uninterrupted recovery.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION STATE IN DURSLEY RURAL DISTRICT, 1952

Age at 31.12.52 *i.e.*, Born in Year	Under 1 1952	1 1951	2 1950	3 1949	4 1948	5-9 1943—47	10-14 1938—42	Total Under 15
Number Immunised	19	169	192	176	210	1,065	1,211	3,042
Estimated Mid-year Child Population 1952	Children under 5 1,384					Children 5—14 2,600		3,984
Percentage immunised in Dursley R.D.	55.3%					87.5%		76.3%
Percentage immunised in County	53.3%					68.2%		63.0%

Since 1947 there has been no deaths from Diphtheria nor has there been any notifications of this disease. In 1947 one case was was notified, of a child who had not completed a course of Diphtheria Immunisation, but none have occurred since.

During 1951 in the whole County of Gloucester there was only one notification and no deaths from this disease. This speaks well for the merits of Diphtheria Immunisation, but unfortunately mothers are becoming too placid about the position as most of them have forgotten what a case of Diphtheria really looked like.

We must never forget the menace that Diphtheria was only a few years ago and if the present inertia continues in relation to Diphtheria Immunisation, we may see the disease back in our midst with its old virulence.

The percentage of children under five in this District who have been immunised is now only 55.3 per cent. The percentage of children between the ages of five and fifteen who have been immunised is 87.5 per cent., making the percentage of all children under 15 who have been immunised as 76.3 per cent. This is a similar figure to that of the County as a whole. Some authorities suggest that 90 per cent. is a safe level to prevent any further outbreaks of epidemic proportions. We are gradually falling well below this figure as can been seen by the low level for the under "Five's." The figure I suggest is being attained in other counties and districts by the combined co-operation of General Practitioners, Nurses, Health Visitors, Public Health Staff, Welfare Committees, and even Councillors. Immunisation is free and can be done by either the child's General Practitioner, or any Welfare Centre in the district. It is up to us to boost the scheme and encourage every mother in our villages and towns to have her baby inoculated against diphtheria before it attains its first birthday. The immunisation level of this child can then be kept up by further inoculation at the school medical inspection around the ages of five and ten respectively. If every mother carried out this scheme we would never have any fear of the return of this deadly disease with its old virulence.

7.—VACCINATION STATE

In view of the recent epidemics of Smallpox in this Country I think it is also relevant to mention the low figure of vaccination against Smallpox in the County as a whole, and especially in this District, which is adjacent to the home town of Jenner—the Berkeley General Practitioner who was the first person to discover the merits of vaccination against smallpox. As an honour to the memory of this great pioneer of Medicine we as individuals must see that we never have an epidemic of smallpox in Dursley Rural District and the only means of avoiding it in these days of fast travel by air and sea is to maintain a high rate of vaccination among the populace as a whole. There is no merit in waiting until cases arrive in the District and then all running to the vaccination centres which would have to be established. Vaccination can be carried out free of all costs by one's own General Practitioner and the reactions these days from the inoculation are so minimal as not even to worry the child or adult.

8.—TUBERCULOSIS

During the year 1952, 24 new or transfer cases of this disease were added to the Register. There were five deaths from the disease in the district, the average age of death being 33.6 years.

The number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the Year was :—

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	51	40	91
Non-Pulmonary	15	16	31
Total :	66	56	122

The figure of 122 shows an increase of 10 on that for last Year and may indicate that there has been more use made of Mass Radiography for early diagnosis. Certainly routine Mass Radiography surveys are now being carried out regularly at most industrial firms in the area.

14 cases were removed from the Register during the Year as either cured, died or left the area.

The fact that there are still 31 non-pulmonary cases of Tuberculosis on the Register and that each Year it is added to, may indicate that there are still sources of bovine infection from milk being disseminated in the area. I look forward to the day when all the milk consumed in the Dursley Rural District is either Tuberculin Tested or preferably Pasteurised Tuberculin Tested as there is far too much raw milk consumed which may at any time be infected with the Tubercle Bacilli. Let us hope that soon this will become a designated area where only cattle that are tuberculin tested can live and then we may gradually see a diminution in the non-pulmonary cases of tuberculosis.

While safe milk is obviously desirable we can only anticipate as a result of such safety a limited fall in the incidence of clinical tuberculosis infection. The human source remains infinitely the more important, and so we must examine the paths of prevention open to us.

Mass Radiography surveys can be criticised on the grounds that they are largely a discovery of tuberculosis victims who volunteer for examination, and that the sources remain hidden among the large percentage of non-volunteers. Compulsory Radiological examination is quite readily accepted by Service personnel, intending emigrants and other sections of the public whose jobs depend on the X-ray findings, e.g., Nurses, Home Helps and employees working in Nurseries or Children's Homes. Until this compulsion is extended to deal with strategic age groups of the factory and office population and all "contacts" of the disease we shall continue to remain in ignorance of the sources of infection—an ignorance that would be considered intolerable in other killing infectious diseases.

The chronic infectious case, even if known, remains at complete liberty to work as he or she pleases in office, factory or pub and only if engaged in handling milk or foodstuffs or dealing with children in an official position such as a Council School or Nursery, is subject to coersion. On the home side there are the patients who, grossly infectious, refuse admission to or discharge themselves prematurely from Sanatorium, exposing their domestic contacts, especially children and young adults, to the gravest of risks; against such the limited legal powers of compulsory removal, though sometimes threatened are rarely, if ever, involved as it is invidious for one area to create hostile patients.

There is at present in this country little recognition of the basic fact that the effective prevention of tuberculosis must necessitate some loss of individual liberty—a price that some other countries have felt worth while to pay and to inflict. Indeed without further legislated control we have no reason to expect the disappearance of this disease from among our communities.

Nevertheless, with the aids we have to-day and continued education of the public in relation to the disease, there is still hope of eradication. We must continue to get the public Mass Radiography conscious, and to undergo the examination annually. B.C.G. Vaccination of all contacts, people in close contact during their work, and all school leavers should be enforced.

Councils must continue to rehouse tuberculosis families, especially from overcrowded damp cottages.

Financial help, if necessary, must still be made by Voluntary Committees such as Dursley and District Tuberculosis After-Care Committee and Employers must be prepared to accept patients who have suffered with this disease and are cured, back into their old job without casting doubt on their health standard.

There is no doubt in my mind that with the funds, co-operation of Government Departments and Local Authorities, we have now got to the stage when Physicians have the drugs to cure if only we can get rid of the sources of infection by the means I have enumerated above.

9.—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47). Removal of Persons in need of care and attention to suitable premises.

During the Year a number of cases were investigated by myself but it was not found necessary to take compulsory measures under the Act for removal. In each case persuasion worked and the old person was removed to a home or hospital for chronic sick.

10.—INTERNATIONAL VACCINATION CERTIFICATES

These certificates have to be countersigned by the Medical Officer of Health for the District in which the General Practitioner resides who has carried out the vaccination.

During the Year 1952, eighteen of these have been stamped and countersigned by me.

11.—MILK SUPPLY

During the Year 113 samples of milk were taken for Bacteriological examination and 39 results were unsatisfactory.

The results of all samples of milk, except those of pasteurised milk, have been sent to the County Milk Production Officer. Where unsatisfactory results have been received the County Milk Production Officer has made a visit to the producer concerned, and her co-operation in this matter will, without doubt, ensure an improvement in the bacteriological standard of milk in this District.

During the Year 91 samples of milk have been taken for biological examination and all results have been negative. This is a little surprising as the number of Tuberculin Tested cattle is only 38.0% of the total number of cattle in the County.

12.—ICE CREAM AND ICE LOLLIES

Bacteriological Examination

During the Year 58 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination and the results of these samples are tabulated below :—

Date taken	B.Coli.	Count	Methylene Blue	M.O.H. Grade	Bacteriologist Remarks
13th February, 1952 ..	—	12,000	4½ hrs.	1	Good
13th February, 1952 ..	—	302,000	0 hrs.	4	Doubtful
28th February, 1952 ..	—	12,000	4 hrs.	2	Good
12th March, 1952	—	10,000	4½ hrs.	1	Good
12th March, 1952	—	8,000	4½ hrs.	1	Good
26th March, 1952	—	2,000	3 hrs.	2	Good
26th March, 1952	—	2,000	3 hrs.	2	Good
26th March, 1952	—	2,000	3 hrs.	2	Good
16th April, 1952	—	392,000	2½ hrs.	2	Doubtful
16th April, 1952	—	2,000	3½ hrs.	2	Good
16th April, 1952	—	6,000	4½ hrs.	1	Good
30th April, 1952	—	6,000	2½ hrs.	2	Good
15th May, 1952	+ - -	6,000	4½ hrs.	1	Good

Date taken	B.Coli.	Count	Methylene Blue	M.O.H. Grade	Bacteriologist Remakrs
19th May, 1952	—	4,000	4½ hrs.	1	Good
19th May, 1952	—	70,000	4 hrs.	2	Good
19th May, 1952	+ - +	8,000	2½ hrs.	2	Good
19th May, 1952	- - +	8,000	2½ hrs.	2	Good
19th May, 1953	+++	750 000	0 hrs.	4	V. Poor
28th May, 1952	- ++	4,000	2½ hrs.	2	Satisfactory
28th May, 1952	- ++	2,000	2½ hrs.	1	Satisfactory
28th May, 1952	—	2,000	4½ hrs.	1	Good
28th May, 1952	—	2,000	4½ hrs.	1	Good
28th May, 1952	- - +	2 000	4½ hrs.	1	Good
28th May, 1952	- ++	20,000	2½ hrs.	2	Satisfactory
12th June, 1952	—	44,000	½ hr.	3	Good
12th June, 1952	—	24,000	2½ hrs.	2	Good
12th June, 1952	- ++	32,000	2½ hrs.	2	Satisfactory
25th June, 1952	- - +	28,000	0 hrs.	4	Good
25th June, 1952	—	2,000	4½ hrs.	1	Good
25th June, 1952	+++	14,000	0 hrs.	4	Satisfactory
25th June, 1952	+++	14,000	0 hrs.	4	Satisfactory
26th June, 1952	+++	2,100,000	0 hrs.	4	V. Poor
26th June,1952	- - +	8,000	2 hrs.	3	Good
4th July, 1952	—	4,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
4th July, 1952	—	12,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
4th July, 1952	—	24,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
4th July, 1952	—	2,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
4th July, 1952	—	2,000	4 hrs.	2	Good
4th July, 1952	+++	3,000,000	0 hrs.	4	V. Poor
17th July, 1952	—	2,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
17th July, 1952	—	2,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
17th July, 1952	—	2,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
17th July, 1952	+++	24,000	0 hrs.	4	Satisfactory
24th July, 1952	- - +	56,000	0 hrs.	4	Good
24th July, 1952	—	8,000	0 hrs.	4	Good
24th July, 1952	—	6,000	4 hrs.	2	Good
6th August, 1952	+++	92 000	0 hrs.	4	Doubtful
6th August, 1952	+++	500 000	0 hrs.	4	V. Poor
21st August, 1952	+++	48,000	0 hrs.	4	Satisfactory
21st August, 1952	+++	96,000	0 hrs.	4	Doubtful
21st August, 1952	—	34,000	4 hrs.	2	Good
24th September, 1952 ..	—	6,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
24th September, 1952 ..	—	8,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
24th September, 1952 ..	—	26,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
24th September, 1952 ..	—	2,000	4 hrs.	2	Good
22nd October, 1952 ..	—	2,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
22nd October, 1952 ..	—	2,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
22nd October, 1952 ..	—	2,000	4 hrs.	1	Good
22nd October, 1952 ..	—	4,000	4 hrs.	2	Good
	Total :—	Grade 1	22		
		Grade 2	20		
		Grade 3	2		
		Grade 4	14		

During the Year 10 samples of ice lollies were taken for bacteriological examination and the results of these samples are tabulated below :—

Date taken	B.Coli.	Count
24th June, 1952	—	10
26th June, 1952	—	60
26th June, 1952	—	10
17th July, 1952	—	50
17th July, 1952	—	90
24th July, 1952	—	50
6th August, 1952	—	10
21st August, 1952	—	10
22nd October, 1952	—	10
22nd October, 1952	—	10

Some difficulty was experienced during the Year with one firm producing ice cream and ice lollies in the district which resulted in a Court case. A short account of this case which explains the difficulties experienced is as follows :—

At a local Court on the 8th September, 1952, ten charges were brought against a local firm of ice cream and ice lolly manufacturers by the Dursley R.D.C. The ten charges were brought under Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938; the Food Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938; and the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-51.

Six charges were in connection with the manufacture of ice cream, and related to walls, doors, floors, apparatus and utensils not being properly cleansed and maintained in a clean condition; not having a sufficient supply of hot and cold water, soap and clean towels; failing to protect ice cream from dirt, dust, or other contamination; and failing to keep the ice cream mixture at a temperature of not more than 45° Fahrenheit after it had been subjected to heat treatment and cooled.

The four remaining charges were in connection with the manufacture of ice lollies and related to the floor, and utensils not being properly cleansed and maintained in a clean condition; failing to protect ice lollies from dirt, dust, flies and other contamination; and failing to cause all such surfaces with which the ice lollies were liable to come into contact to be of such materials as to prevent the absorption of any food, material, or refuse.

The factory in which the ice cream was being manufactured was only built three years ago and is well equipped. The ice lollies, however, were being manufactured in a large marquee erected over a concrete base laid in readiness for a future extension to the factory. It was considered that registration of the marquee could not be enforced as ice lollies do not come within the definition of ice cream. In order to frame the charges in connection with ice lollies it was necessary to prove that the ice lollies being manufactured there were a food and Mr. E. G. Whittle, Public Analyst, Bristol, gave evidence to prove this.

Evidence for the Dursley R.D.C. was given by Dr. W. J. D. Cooper, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. T. B. Chaffe, Deputy Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. C. W. R. Fisher, Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

The firm concerned were convicted on eight charges, and fines totalling £42 were imposed plus costs.

Announcing the decisions of the Bench, the Chairman said : "The Bench would like to say that we do regard this as being a case of considerable importance in certain respects. It will show the public that their welfare and interests are well looked after by this Act of Parliament and by the local By-laws and it will provide the public with an assurance that the responsible authority is very vigilant in securing compliance with the provisions of this Act. Thirdly, it will be a reminder and a warning to all traders and individuals concerned in handling and the manufacture of food that they must be very scrupulous in observing their obligations under this Act and under the By-laws."

It is interesting to note that in this case ice lollies were proved to be a food, and from this it would seem that premises in which ice lollies are manufactured can be controlled under Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Fat Content

Twenty-six samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for examination for fat content and non-fatty solids content.

The averages of the results received as compared with the standard required are given below :—

		Standard Required
Average fat content to 7th July, 1952	9.76%	5%
Average non-fatty solids	33.76%	17.5%
Average fat content from 7th July, 1952	9.69%	4%
Average non-fatty solids	35.5%	15%

Routine inspections of premises at which ice cream and ice lollies are produced, and of premises and mobile vehicles from which these commodities are retailed have been made throughout the Year.

13.—MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

During the year the following foodstuffs have been voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption :

Meat

Pork : 54lbs. 11ozs. Beef : 168lbs. 12oz.
Mutton : 26lbs. 4oz. Sheepsheads : 35lbs. 3oz.
Tinned Veal : 20lbs. Luncheon Meat : 9lbs. 8oz.
Ham: 39lbs. 5oz. Miscellaneous tinned meats: 86lbs. 6oz.

Fish

Cod Fillets : 28lbs.

Tinned Vegetables

Tomatoes : 36lbs. 12oz.

Tinned Fruit : 73lbs. 13oz.

Other Foodstuffs

Cheese : 6lbs. Sugar : 26¼cwts. (damaged after fire).
Tinned Milk : 13lbs. 14oz.
Miscellaneous foodstuffs : 262lbs. 6oz.
Total weight : 33cwts. 3qrs. 20lbs. 13oz.

There are five licensed slaughterhouses in the district at which occasional emergency slaughter takes place, but there is no Ministry of Food Central Slaughterhouse in the district.

SLAUGHTER OF HORSES

No slaughtering of horses for sale for human consumption takes place in this district.

14.—FOOD PREMISES

Routine inspections of food premises and mobile food vans have been made during the Year, and whilst improvements have been made in many instances there is still more improvement required in some food premises.

During the Year notices in connection with dogs being excluded from food shops were distributed, and shopkeepers requested to display them in a prominent position at the entrance to such shops.

15.—FOOD POISONING

No suspected cases of food poisoning have been notified during the Year.

16.—PUBLIC HOUSES

During the Year a Survey of Public Houses was commenced in order to ascertain the conditions prevailing at these premises. This Survey will be continued during the next twelve months, but it is felt that routine work on Housing should take precedence over this work.

17.—LABORATORY SERVICES

No alterations have been made in the arrangements for the use of laboratory services since my last Report.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations of water, ice cream, foodstuffs and faeces, and bacteriological and biological examinations of milk have been carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Bristol. I should like to mention how well the staff at this Laboratory have co-operated with us in connection with this work.

Chemical analysis of crude sewage and sewage works effluents have been carried out by Messrs. Ellis & Turner, of Gloucester.

18.—FACTORY INSPECTIONS

Routine factory inspections and inspections in connection with " Means of Escape in case of Fire" have been made during the Year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES	*Number on Register*	*Number of*		
		Inspections	*Written Notices*	*Occupiers Prosecuted*
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	2	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	65	36	3	—
(3) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	2	—	—
TOTAL	77	40	3	Nil.

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

PARTICULARS	*No. of cases in which defects were found*				*Prosecutions*
			Referred		
	Found	*Remedied*	*To H.M. Inspector*	*By H.M. Inspector*	
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL	3	3	1	1	—

Outwork Sections 110 and 111
Nature of Work
Wearing Apparel—Making etc. Number of outworkers in list required by Section 110-12

19.—MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

At the end of the Year there were 17 moveable dwellings licensed within the area.

No applications for licences to station and use moveable dwellings within the area have been refused this Year.

There is one licensed site in the area at Slimbridge, and this is used mostly by persons passing through the area who stop for one or two nights only.

Routine visits are made to moveable dwellings and the moveable dwelling site in the area; no major problems in connection with these dwellings has so far arisen.

20.—HOUSING

The repair of sub-standard properties in the area still remains a problem. Most of the repairs carried out to these properties are as a result of informal action under the Public Health Act, 1936. The extent of the repairs, however, is confined to essential repairs which often do little more than keep the houses in question wind and weatherproof. I reiterate the remarks in my last Annual Report that action at Government level in connection with rent revision would appear to be the only solution to this problem.

Seven very substandard houses in the Water Street and Bowers Court area of Dursley were bought by the Council and demolished during the Year in order to create car parking facilities.

Formal action under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936, was taken in respect of three other houses. In two cases a satisfactory scheme was submitted by the owners to render the houses fit and in each case an undertaking was accepted by the Council. In the third case no undertaking was given by the owner and a demolition order was authorised.

21.—HOUSING MANAGEMENT

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the following short report on housing conditions in the District.

72 families were re-housed from the Council's housing list during 1952, in accordance with their basis of family need and housing conditions as measured by the Council's system of priorities. There are now approximately 540 applicants on the housing list and this number is gradually increasing.

The Council's method of pointing applications, whereby due priority is given to bedroom deficiency, infectious tuberculosis, sub-standard houses and other factors, is now operated in accordance with the recommendations of the Central Housing Advisory Committee.

Internal and external transfers of tenancy are now made available to tenants and are being used to full advantage.

Repairs to Council houses continue to receive attention in accordance with their urgency, and it is now apparent that the formerly heavy programme of maintenance is easing somewhat.

The Council is gradually releasing those properties formerly held under their powers of requisitioning.

22.—CIVIL DEFENCE

During the Year a talk on Hygiene and Sanitation was given by the Deputy Sanitary Inspector to each of the following groups of Civil Defence personnel: Dursley, Wotton-under-Edge and Kingswood.

PART II.

REPORT OF THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

The Staff in the Department of the Engineer and Surveyor consists of :—

Deputy Engineer and Surveyor	N. R. W. Lee
Architectural Assistant	R. Edwards
Technical Assistant	C. G. Thomas
Junior Technical Assistant	R. L. Herrick
General and Costing Clerk	A. W. Sutton
Articled Pupil	J. K. Frapwell
Junior Clerk/Typist	Miss J. M. Rendall

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my sixth Annual Report which is in respect of the twelve months ended 31st December, 1952.

Good progress has been maintained in all Departments and it has been possible during the year to command reasonably good labour forces in connection with the various Contracts undertaken on behalf of the Council in the construction of estate roads and the erection of Houses.

The number of houses completed during the Year was 62 of a total of 156 under construction.

The total number of post-war houses completed at the end of 1952 was 610.

HOUSING

The number of Contracts in progress during 1952 totalled 19 and were as follows :—

12 Traditional Houses	Tinkley Lane, Nympsfield.
10 Cornish Unit Houses	Fountain Crescent, Wotton-under-Edge.
16 Cornish Unit Houses	Woodfield (Marment Road).
2 Old People's Bungalows	Woodfield.
6 Traditional Houses	Tilsdown.
24 Cornish Unit Houses	Tilsdown.
12 Cornish Unit Houses	Tilsdown.
Construction of Roads and Sewers	Woodfield Extension No. 4
4 Garages	Fairmead.
Public Conveniences	Cam.
Roads, Sewers and Disposal Works	Nympsfield.
Roads, Sewers and Disposal Works	Uley, Raglan Site.
Surfacing Playing Fields	Highfields.
Surfacing Council Yard	Kingshill, Dursley.

44 Traditional Houses	Woodfield.
Completion of Footpaths	Tilsdown
17 Traditional Houses	Uley, Raglan Site.
Completion of Footpaths	Fountain Crescent, Wotton-under-Edge.

In addition final accounts were examined and agreed during the Year for the following Contracts :—

Aluminium Bungalows ...	Woodfield (Fencing Account)
43 Aluminium Bungalows ...	Woodfield (Siteworks)
20 Cornish Unit Houses	Slimbridge
Roads and Sewers	Slimbridge (Extension No. 2)
Roads and Sewers	Fairmead (formerly Spouthouse Lane)
22 Cornish Unit Houses	Coaley, Betworthy Estate
9 Aluminium Bungalows ...	Fairmead (Siteworks)

An improvement has been made in the system and administration of measuring up for interim and final certificates and preparation of final accounts which has proved invaluable and speeded up the settlement of accounts. Owing to the rapid changes in the rise and fall of prices of basic materials a system of monthly claims, particularly to meet the increases in Wages and materials was introduced. This system was operative before a Ministry directive was sent to all Local Housing Authorities directing that such fluctuations should be paid on all interim certificates and not to be subject to any deduction for retention money. Although the amount of work involved was voluminous the time spent was well worth the while in easing the position at the end of the contract.

1.—THE NUMBER OF HOUSES COMPLETED SINCE THE WAR UP TO THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1952

(a) Completed under the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

Aluminium Bungalows :—

Draycott, Cam	40	(temporary 2 bedroom)	
Woodfield, Cam	71	(permanent 2 bedroom)	
Woodfield, Cam	43	(permanent 3 bedroom)	
Fairmead, Cam	9	(permanent 3 bedroom)	Total :163

Swedish Houses :—

Stinchcombe	4	
Uley	4	
Wotton-under-Edge, Mount Pleasant ...	4	
North Nibley, Barrs Lane	4	Total : 16

Traditional Houses :—

Uley	6	
Draycott, Cam	20	
Nympsfield, Tinkley Lane (Cotswold Stone)	12	
Tilsdown	6	
Old People's Bungalows, Woodfield ...	2	Total : 46

Cornish Unit Houses :—

Slimbridge, Tyning Crescent	20	
Coaley, Betworthy	22	
Kingswood, Chestnut Park	10	
Tilsdown	36	
Wotton-under-Edge, Fountain Crescent	10	Total : 98
		Total : 323

(b) Completed under Consultant Architects.

Airey Houses :—

North Nibley, Innocks Estate	12	
Kingswood, Chestnut Park	10	
Slimbridge, Tyning Crescent	8	
Coaley, Hams Hill	8	
Wotton-under-Edge, Fountain Crescent	12	Total : 50

Stent Houses :—

Kingshill, Dursley	66	Total : 66

Traditional Houses :—

Wotton-under-Edge, Mount Pleasant	40	
Wotton-under-Edge, Fountain Crescent	12	
Fairmead, Cam	36	
Woodfield	8	Total : 96
		Total : 212

Total by Engineer and Surveyor	323
Total by Consultant Architects	212
Total by Private Enterprise	75
Total :	610

NUMBER OF HOUSES IN PROCESS OF BUILDING IN 1952

(a) Under the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

Cornish Unit Houses :—

Tilsdown	36	
Wotton-under-Edge, Fountain Crescent	10	
Woodfield, Marment Road	16	Total : 62

Traditional Houses :—

Nympsfield	8	
Woodfield, Old People's Bungalows	2	
Tilsdown	6	
Woodfield	17	
Woodfield	44	
Uley, Raglan Estate	17	Total : 94
		Total : 156

(b) Under Consultant Architects		Nil
(c) Under Private Enterprise :		
Cam	9	
Dursley	6	
Kingswood	1	
Nympsfield	1	
Wotton-under-Edge	2	
Slimbridge	1	Total : 20

Total by Engineer and Surveyor	156
Total by Consultant Architects	—
Total by Private Enterprise	20
Total :	176

NUMBER OF HOUSES COMPLETED IN 1952

(a) Under the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

Cornish Unit Houses :—		
Tilsdown	36	
Wotton-under-Edge, Fountain Crescent	10	Total : 46
Traditional Houses :—		
Nympsfield	8	
Woodfield, Old People's Bungalowes	2	
Tilsdown	6	Total : 16
		Total : 62
(b) Under Consultant Architects		Nil
(c) Under Private Enterprise		
Cam	4	
Dursley	2	
Kingswood	1	
Nympsfield	1	
Wotton-under-Edge	1	Total : 9

Total by Council's Engineer & Surveyor	62
Total by Consultant Architects	—
Total by Private Enterprise	9
Total :	71

Families accommodated as a result of conversion, adaptation or otherwise of old properties 5

2.—HOUSING ESTATE DEVELOPMENTS

Surveys were made and levels taken for the following Estates :

Wortley Road, Wotton-under-Edge, sufficient to accommodate approximately 120 houses.

Woodfield, Extension No. 6, sufficient to accommodate approximately 100 houses.

Plans, Specifications and Bills of Quantity were prepared for the following road and sewer works :—

Wortley Road, Wotton-under-Edge.

Layout plans were prepared for the following : —

17 Traditional Houses, Raglar Site, Uley.
44 Traditional House, Woodfield.
6 Traditional Houses, Woodfield.

Detailed House Plans were prepared for the following :—

17 Traditional Houses, Raglan Site, Uley.
44 Traditional Houses, Woodfield.
6 Traditional Houses, Woodfield.

During the Year the following works were completed :—

Raglan Site, Uley (excluding Footpaths) comprising 1,332 yards super of Carriageway and 968 yards lineal of Foul and Stormwater Sewers.

Footpaths were completed to the Carriageways at Fountain Crescent, Wotton-under-Edge, and at Nympsfield.

3.—BUILDING LICENCES

The following is a summary of the applications received, investigated and dealt with for the Year ending 31st December, 1952 :—

1.	Number of Applications for Building Licences received and investigated	87
2.	Number of Applications for Building Licences which were granted	55
3.	Value of Licences issued	£50,513
4.	Number of Applications referred to the Ministry of Works	6
5.	Interviews with owners, agents and builders ...	90

Private Enterprise House Building gave rise to a considerable amount of work, particularly as to need, cost and reasonableness of builders' estimates received; special care was given to the examination of plans, specifications and other details leading up to the issue of the Licences, and the fixing of the selling price. The Ministry was very stringent in the use of timber for repairs and adaptations and care had to be given in checking the timber requirements of all Licences.

4.—BUILDING BYELAWS

The number of Plans and Applications deposited for consideration were 171 and of those deposited 170 were approved and one disapproved. The number of inspections made for Foundations, Damp Course, Drains and final inspections before occupation, etc., during the Year were 503.

5.—SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACT

Nineteen valuations, following the usual inspections, were made during the Year for advances under the above Act. A number of these valuations were in respect of new dwellings and twelve further inspections of work done to date were made for the purposes of issuing interim certificates for the value of the work done in respect of advances made by instalments.

6.—WATER SUPPLY

There has been no change in the quality of the water supply for the District, which on the whole can be considered satisfactory, and though Hamblins Brake, which did give rise for some concern in the past, is not entirely satisfactory, recent analysis have proved that the water emanating from these shallow springs are chemically fit in all respects for human consumption, but bacteriologically the supply is not one that would be considered suitable and must be dispensed with as soon as circumstances allow. Coaley, too, which has a separate supply, shows no change in quality, but after chlorination both of these supplies are satisfactory.

The water in the whole District is of a hard nature having no plumbo-solvent action and all supplies are chlorinated before reaching the consumer.

The water supply serving the Dursley area (with the exception of some parts of Slimbridge) is still obtained from springs issuing from Marlestone at levels varying between 270 O.D. and 320 O.D. and in the Wotton-under-Edge area issuing from Cotswold sand at levels between 290 and 700 feet O.D.

During the Year the water supply in the Dursley area gave rise to some anxiety and at times difficulty was experienced in affording a regular supply of water, particularly in the Stinchcombe and occasionally Slimbridge areas; matters were made worse by power failures which affected our pumping capacity, which was already severely taxed. The supply has, however, been somewhat augmented by a quantity of water averaging 25,000 gallons per day from the Gloucestershire Water Corporation which now serves parts of Cambridge and Slimbridge. By taking this supply from the Gloucester Water Corporation it has helped in affording a more adequate and regular supply to those parts of Stinchcombe that had only an intermittent supply at the peak periods of draw off in the district. It must be emphasised that this is not the answer to the water difficulties, as with the increasing number of houses erected and larger numbers still in course of erection, or planned to be erected, the position must deteriorate, until such time as the storage c pacity and also the pumping facilities in the Dursley area are increased. Difficulty is bound to arise pending the Comprehensive Scheme for the district materialising.

The average daily water consumption for Dursley has reached almost the 500,000 gallon mark, equivalent to 32 gallons per head per day, and is dangerously near the maximum of 525,000 gallons per day that the present plant is capable of delivering to the Reservoir. If, as is possible, the plant is stopped for only a short while, it would be impossible to maintain an adequate supply in the area.

There has been no appreciable change in the average daily consumption for the Wotton-under-Edge and Kingswood areas, which still remain at approximately 150,000 gallons per day, equivalent to 29 gallons per head per day, though concern is bound to be experienced from time to time until the Comprehensive Scheme becomes effective.

In Kingswood the water supply, which is supplied from an 18,000 gallon reservoir T.W.L. 265 feet O.D., situated near the Fountain Crescent Housing Estate, has given cause for some anxiety, due to the growth in the demand for water, there has been a considerable reduction in the pressure in the distribution mains and during the peak periods of draw off some properties have experienced a shortage with only an intermittent supply. Though in some cases much of the trouble is due to the long service pipes of small diameter.

With a view to improving the supply to Kingswood, a scheme was prepared and submitted to the Ministry for the construction of a 20,000 gallon reservoir T.W.L. 385.50 feet O.D. at Tor Hill, in a field adjoining Wortley Road, Wotton-under-Edge, to connect up with the existing distribution main in Kingswood near Walk Mills. To this end a meeting was held on the proposed site of the new reservoir with an Engineer from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and stress was laid on the necessity of getting the scheme through for Kingswood and more particularly in view of the proposed housing scheme at Wortley Road. This Reservoir would also serve to supply the new houses proposed to be erected on the Wortley Road Site.

The Ministry has since turned down the proposed scheme but are prepared to consider a scheme for the construction of a new Reservoir to supply the new housing estate at Wortley Road, Wotton-under-Edge.

	Standpipe, Tickshill, Coaley	Tap, 1-4, Bristol Rd., Cambridge (Glouecter Corporation —Bulk Supply)	19, Lampern View, Uley	Tap, The Dairy, Dursley	Tap, 13, The Bungalows, Draycott, Cam	Standpipe, Hammer Mill, Coaley	Tap, 6. Betworthy Estate, Coaley	Tap, 1, Northfields, Stinchcombe
PARTS PER MILLION								
Date	16.1.52	16.1.52	16.1.52	16.1.52	16.1.52	16.1.52	30.1.52	30.1.52
Total Solid Matter (Dried at 180°C.								
Mineral Matter								
Loss on ignition								
Chlorine as Chlorides								
Total Oxidised Nitrogen								
Nitrite Nitrogen								
Free Ammonia								
Albuminoid Ammonia								
Total Hardness ⎰ By Sodium								
Per. Hardness ⎱ Versenate .								
pH								
Metals								
Residual Chlorine								
Bacteriological Examination								
Number of colonies per ml. of original water developing at 37°C.	1	16	19	4	4	6	4	8
At 20—22°	29	2	1	1	1	26	86	42
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. of original water ..	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Faecal B. coli type I present/absent	Present	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Present	Absent	Absent

	Tap, 2, Innocks Estate, North Nibley	Tap, 8, Chestnut Park, Kingswood	Tap, 6, Wortley Rd., Wotton-under-Edge	Tap, Golf Club, Stinchcombe Hill, Dursley	Well Supply Cam Co-operative Stores, Cam	Well Supply, Westridge, North Nibley	Well Supply, Mr. S. Robinson's Canning Factory, Dursley	Stream, Summerfield Farm, Owlpen, Uley
PARTS PER MILLION								
Date	30.1.52	30.1.52	30.1.52	30.1.52	12.3.52	12.3.52	26.3.52	30.4.52
Total Solid Matter (Dried at 180°C.				344	606	646	616	
Mineral Matter				310	542	506	532	
Loss on ignition				34	64	140	84	
Chlorine as Chlorides				15	33	35	35	
Total Oxidised Nitrogen								
Nitrite Nitrogen				nil	nil	nil	nil	
Free Ammonia				nil	nil	nil	nil	
Albuminoid Ammonia				nil	0.02	0.05	0.03	
Nitrite as Nitrates				1.09	6.57	17.69	14.98	
Total Hardness { By Sodium				304	384	456	444	
Per. Hardness { Versenate ..				70	88	156	184	
Temporary				234	296	300	260	
pH				0.06	7.3	7.4	7.3	
Metals					Slight trace (Copper (Cu))	0.55 (Copper (Cu))	Slight trace (Iron (Fe))	
Residual Chlorine								
Bacteriological Examination								
Number of colonies per ml. of original water developing at 37°C.	2	5	34	19	13	193	720	212
At 20—22°	25	10	18	54	700	53,000	10,600	3200
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. of original water ..	0	0	0	0	130	350	25	1800+
Faecal B. coli type I present/absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	B. aer. type II present	Present	Present (& inter type II)	Present

	Well Supply, Cam Vicarage Cam	Well Supply, serving Houses at Hydegate, Uley	Bottom Spring, Tyley Bottom, Wotton-under-Edge	Top Spring, Tyley Bottom, Wotton-under-Edge	Hamblin's Brake Springs, Wotton-under-Edge	Spring at Glantworth, Coombe Rd., Wotton-under-Edge	Tap. 14, Mount Pleasant, Wotton-under-Edge	Greenhay Spring, Wotton-under-Edge
PARTS PER MILLION								
Date	11.6.52	11.6.52	26.6.52	26.6.52	26.6.52	26.6.52	30.6.52	30.6.52
Total Solid Matter (Dried at 180°C.	573	498	322	322	414	254		280
Mineral Matter	425	398	282	312	374	206		260
Loss on ignition	184	100	40	10	40	48		20
Chlorine as Chlorides	23	25	13	14	15	13		17
Total Oxidised Nitrogen								
Nitrite Nitrogen	Slight trace	0.01	nil	nil	nil	Slight trace		nil
Free Ammonia	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil		nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.02	0.04	nil	nil	nil	nil		nil
Nitrite as Nitrates	20.87	13.19	0.63	0.50	1.35	2.31		2.21
Total Hardness ⎰ By Sodium	362	376	268	272	346	200		220
Per. Hardness ⎱ Versenate ..	189	125	65	59	102	127		62
Temporary	173	251	203	213	.. 244	73		158
pH	7.4		7.3	7.3	7.9	7.8		7.3
Metals	Trace of Copper (Cu) Iron (fe)	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil		nil
Residual Chlorine		nil	nil	nil	nil	nil		nil
Bacteriological Examination								
Number of colonies per ml. of original water developing at 37°C.	87	5,600	1	13	87	490	10	16
At 20—22°	930	23,600	25	110	135	8,000	1	277
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. of original water ..	7	40	5	2	3	8,000	0	5
Faecal B. coli type I present/absent	Present	Absent	Absent	Absent	Present	Present	Absent	Present

	Frogend Spring, Wotton-under-Edge	Bottom Spring, Tyley Bottom, Wotton-under-Edge	Well Supply, Mr. S. Robinson's Canning Factory, Dursley	Spring, feeding Coombe Pumping Stn., Wotton-under-Edge	North Spring, Spring Tyning, Coaley	South Spring, Spring Tyning, Coaley	Tap, 4, Hamshill, Coaley	Well at Old Pumping Stn., Dursley
PARTS PER MILLION								
Date	30.6.52	8.7.52	8.7.52	8.7.52	17.7.52	17.7.52	17.7.52	24.7.52
Total Solid Matter (Dried at 180°C.	312			318	346	268		404
Mineral Matter	292			278	318	256		382
Loss on ignition	20			40	28	12		22
Chlorine as Chlorides	11			13	19	13		16
Total Oxidised Nitrogen								
Nitrite Nitrogen	nil			nil	nil	nil		nil
Free Ammonia	nil			nil	nil	nil		nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	nil			nil	nil	nil		nil
Nitrite as Nitrates	1.22			0.89	0.43	1.09		2.11
Total Hardness By Sodium	264			264	274	218		324
Per. Hardness Versenate	46			72	73	57		73
Temporary	218			192	201	161		251
pH	7.2			7.4	7.2	7.2		7.2
Metals	nil			nil	nil	nil		nil
Residual Chlorine	nil			nil	nil	nil		nil
Bacteriological Examination								
Number of colonies per ml. of original water developing at 37°C.	100	1	600	3	22	11	2	3
At 20—22°	100	7	12,500	25	100	63	120	1
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml., of original water	13	25	140	30	5	8	5	0
Faecal B. coli type I present/absent	Present	Absent	Present	Present	Present	Present (& irregular type I)	Present	Absent

	Spring at Caswell Pumping Stn., Dursley	Tap. 67, School Rd., Highfields, Dursley	Spring at Millend Pumping Stn., North Nibley	Tap, 2, Swedish Houses, North Nibley	Tap, House, The Street, Coaley	Spring supply, Col. Browne's, Bournstream, Wotton-under-Edge	Tap, Rest Home, Kingswood	Tap, supplying three cotts., Little Acre, Wotton-under-Edge
PARTS PER MILLION								
Date	24.7.52	24.7.52	24.9.52	24.9.52	24.9.52	22.10.52	22.10.52	22.10.52
Total Solid Matter (Dried at 180°C.	354		330			308		
Mineral Matter	342		316			282		
Loss on ignition	12		14			26		
Chlorine as Chlorides .. .	13		17			22		
Total Oxidised Nitrogen								
Nitrite Nitrogen	nil		nil			nil		
Free Ammonia	nil		nil			nil		
Albuminoid Ammonia	nil		nil			nil		
Nitrite as Nitrates	0.89		0.50			0.78		
Total Hardness { By Sodium	294		288			244		
Per. Hardness { Versenate ..	60		64			48		
Temporary	234		224			196		
pH	7.2		7.2			7.2		
Metals	nil		nil			0.6 Iron (fe)		
Residual Chlorine	nil		nil					
Bacteriological Examination								
Number of colonies per ml. of original water developing at 37°C.	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	6
At 20—22°	1	4	1	3	1	119	43	14
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. of original water ..	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Faecal B. coli type I present/absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Present	Absent	Absent

	Well at Watsome Bridge Factory, Kingswood	Spring in field, Bournstream, Wotton-under-Edge	Well at Watsome Bridge Factory, Kingswood	Tap, at Watsome Bridge Factory, Kingswood	Tap at 3, Bristol Rd., Cambridge (Gloucester Corporation —Bulk Supply)	Tap, The Great House, The Patch, Slimbridge (Gloucester Corporation —Bulk	Tap at The Rectory, Slimbridge (Gloucester Corporation —Bulk Supply)	Tap, "Green Gables," Crawley Hill, Uley
PARTS PER MILLION								
Date	5.11.52	20.11.52	20.11.52	20.11.52	15.12.52	15.12.52	15.12.52	31.12.52
Total Solid Matter (Dried at 180°C.	718				236			373
Mineral Matter	610				196			261
Loss on ignition	108				40			112
Chlorine as Chlorides	41				32			17
Total Oxidised Nitrogen								
Nitrite Nitrogen	V slight trace				0.02			nl
Free Ammonia	nil				0.12			0.02
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.02				0.04			0.02
Nitrite as Nitrates	7.10				2.39			1.22
Total Hardness ⎧ By Sodium	572				166			322
Per. Hardness ⎩ Versenate ..	170				78			74
Temporary	402				88			248
pH	7.2				7.6			7.6
Metals	V slight trace (Zinc (Zn))				nil			0.09 (Zinc (Zn))
Residual Chlorine					0.02			
Bacteriological Examination								
Number of colonies per ml. of original water developing at 37°C.	21	1	250	68	2	1	6	1
At 20—22°	800	97	30,000	30,000	300	1,710	570	380
Probable number of coli-aerogenes organisms per 100 ml. of original water ..	13	0	70	350	0	0	0	0
Faecal B. coli type I present/absent	Absent	Present	Present (& Intermediate type II)	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent

Parish	Estimated Population, Based on Inhabited Properties	No. of Properties in Parish	No. of Properties connected with a piped water supply (including Standpipe supplies)		Houses supplied by Standpipes
			Meter	Domestic, etc.	
Cam..	3,688	1,208	50	1,098	52
Coaley	707	229	6	188	52
Dursley	4,751	1,625	42	1,430	70
Kingswood	950	328	14	264	39
North Nibley	788	262	27	120	40
Nympsfield	291	97	9	85	4
Slimbridge	872	293	45	200	41
Stinchcombe	381	130	29	89	6
Uley and Owlpen	1,056	347	Uley 13	277	44
			O'pen —	—	—
Wotton-under-Edge	3,536	1,194	31	1,049	123
	17,020	5,713			

CONNECTIONS TO WATER MAINS

During 1952 the following connections were made to the Council's water mains:—

Parish	No. of houses connected	Meter	Total
Dursley	3	2	5
Cam	70	8	78
Coaley	4	2	6
Slimbridge	3	2	5
Stinchcombe	—	1	1
North Nibley	1	—	1
Wotton-under-Edge	12	2	14
Kingswood	1	1	2
Uley	19	3	22
Nympsfield	13	2	15
	126	23	149

EXTENSIONS TO WATER MAINS DURING THE YEAR

New Water Mains and extensions to existing mains were carried out during the Year as follows :—

Rockstowes, near Dursley ...	Extension from Uley to Rockstowes of 305 yards of 4″ dia. pipe. 153 yards of ½″ dia. pipe. 182 yards of ¾″ dia. pipe. 217 yards of 1¼″ dia. pipe and 217 yards of 1″ dia. pipe.
Wotton-under-Edge	Lower Bradley Street to Bradley Green. 370 yards of 1½″ dia. pipe.
Crapen, Cam	280 yards of 1¼″ dia. pipe.
Uley, Raglan Site	155 yards of 3″ C.I. Main.
Wotton-under-Edge	The Chipping to Merlin Haven. 200 yards of 3″ Pipe connecting the two mains.

7.—DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The Sewerage and Drainage of the district remains unchanged. An additional small Disposal Works was completed to serve the new Raglan Housing Estate, Uley, and brings the total number of Plants in the District to 15 as follows :—

Coaley	3
Slimbridge	1
Nympsfield	1
Stinchcombe	1
Kingswood	3
North Nibley	2
Uley	4
Total :	15

The Plants at Wotton-under-Edge and Dursley are very much overloaded and complaints were received from the Severn River Board with regard to the pollution of the Little Avon River from the Wotton-under-Edge Sewage Outfall Works. It was suggested by the Severn River Board that the present sludge drying beds should be abandoned and new ones constructed on higher land, but as a result of some improvements carried out, viz., removal of all sludge deposited alongside the banks of the River and the taking up of the concrete floors of the existing shallow tanks and converting them into proper humus chambers, it is possible that the Severn River Board will not press for the construction of new sludge beds.

The Comprehensive Scheme for the District has not yet received the full approval of the Ministry, but during the Year further details of gaugings of effluent, particularly as to that discharging into the Sewer from the South Western Gas Board's Works at Dursley which was taken as well as the Sewage at the Coaley Disposal Works. Assistance was also given to the Consultants for the purposes of taking levels for the Kingswood, North Nibley, Stinchcombe and Slimbridge Sewerage Schemes.

8.—SEWAGE WORKS EFFLUENTS

During the Year samples of sewage effluent were taken from Wotton-under-Edge and Dursley Sewage Works, and the results are as follows :—

Samples taken :— 16th, October, 1952.	**Wotton-under-Edge Sewage Works**	**Dursley Sewage Works**
The sample contains (parts per million) :—		
Total Solid Matter	489	678
Total Dissolved Solids	444	632
Suspended Solids	45	46
Mineral Matter in :—		
Total Solid Matter	314	412
Total Dissolved Solids	308	405
Suspended Solids	6	7
Volatile and Organic Matter in :—		
Total Solid Matter	175	266
Total Dissolved Solids	136	227
Suspended Solids	39	39
Combined Chlorine	31	131
Nitrogen present as Nitrates	10.0	12.0
Nitrogen present as Nitrites	0.16	0.3
Mineral Ammonia as N.	3.70	21.4
Organic Ammonia as N.	1.36	1.28
Oxygen required to oxidise the organic matter in :—		
(a) 3 minutes	3.6	3.21
(b) 4 hours	17.0	15.4
Dissolved Oxygen	6.0	5.8
Biological Oxygen Demand	14.2	17.8
STRENGTH (Royal Commission Standard)		
pH Value	7.3	7.1
Total Chromium compounds	...	4.9

Remarks :—

Wotton-under-Edge Sewage Works

The analysis shows that this sample does not satisfy the requirements of the standard laid down in the 8th report of the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal for an effluent which is to be discharged into a stream or water-course where the volume is at least eight times that of the effluent. The Suspended Solids exceed the maximum (30 parts per million) and many of the other figures are on the high side.

Dursley Sewage Works

The analysis shows that this sample does not satisfy the above standards in that the Suspended Solids exceed the maximum figure. This sample also contains Chromium compounds, and, although the quantity in the effluent is within the maximum limit allowed, the liquid which discharged these Chromium compounds must have contained a much larger quantity than the maximum. Chromium compounds exert a serious inhibiting effect on the purification processes.

9.—NIGHT SOIL COLLECTION

During the Year the Council considered instituting a scheme for the collection of night soil from those parishes which have no sewage system.

Two schemes were considered: (a) A comprehensive scheme for the collection of all night soil in the area, and (b) A scheme for the collection of night soil from those properties which have inadequate garden space.

After considering both schemes at great length, and taking into account the difficulties of collection, disposal and the cost of same the Council decided not to institute either scheme.

10.—PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Disposal

Throughout the Year refuse from the whole area has been disposed of at Synwell Refuse Tip, Wotton-under-Edge. This tipping is serving a dual purpose; that of disposing of the refuse from the area by means of controlled tipping, and that of improving a playing field owned by the Synwell Playing Fields Association.

During the early Summer minor fly troubles were experienced but were quickly brought under control by the use of Gammexane dispersable powder. It was found necessary to spray the tip face every evening, and the whole of the area covered by tipping during the previous two months every week.

Fortunately no rat infestation of the tip occurred during the Year, and this was surprising as it has been necessary to tip refuse against quite a long length of hedge.

Tipping will be able to continue at the Synwell Playing Field for a few months longer, but a new tipping site will have to be found in the near future. This will not be an easy matter as considerable difficulties arose last Year when tipping sites were being sought.

I would like to repeat my remarks in last Year's Annual Report that the Bristol 20 Angledozer purchased by the Council has proved a great asset in connection with the proper control of refuse tipping.

Refuse Collection

No major alterations in the timetable for refuse and salvage collections were made during the Year.

A trailer is used at the rear of the Bantam Karrier for salvage, but a salvage rack in fitted over the double cab of the Fore and Aft Tipper.

At present the collection of refuse is made weekly in the following parishes : Dursley, Cam, Wotton-under-Edge and Kingswood. Fortnightly collections are made in the remaining parishes : namely, North Nibley, Uley, Stinchcombe, Slimbridge, Coaley, Owlpen and Nympsfield. Salvage is collected at the same time as refuse.

The vehicles used in connection with Refuse Collection are are follows :—

One Shelvoke & Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper.

One Bantam Karrier.

A second Bantam Karrier is used when an extra collection vehicle is required, such as at holiday periods, or when either of the other vehicles are off the road for maintenance or repair.

The following table indicates the total quantities of salvage materials collected during the Year and their approximate value.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	50	11	0	0	354	18	0
Scrap Iron	17	18	1	0	64	0	2
Mixed Metals (non-ferreous) ...		4	3	9	13	19	6
Rags		11	2	8	11	0	1
Rubber		3	3	0		3	0
Total	69 tons	9 cwts.	1 qr.	17 lbs.	£444	0	9

During the Year domestic tins were salvaged from crude refuse at Synwell Tip for a few weeks as an experiment in connection with the National Scrap Drive Organisation. The experiment proved that this work was most uneconomical and so it was discontinued.

11.—STORAGE OF PETROLEUM

During the Year a comprehensive survey of all petrol storage installations in the District was made. In many instances improvements have had to be requested, and already quite a number of owners have had the necessary improvements carried out, or have them in the course of being carried out.

The improvements referred to include the following : —

(a) The installation of offset fillers which enable petrol storage tanks inside a building to be filled from outside.

(b) Raising of manhole covers to prevent surface water flowing in on top of storage tanks.

(c) Improvement of electrical installations near petrol storage tanks to ensure that they are "flameproof."

(d) Removal of stoves or welding plants to a safe distance from petrol storage tanks.

(e) Erection of warning notices reading "No smoking, switch off engine."

Requests have also been made for petrol storage tanks to be tested where this has been considered necessary.

In fact every endeavour is being made to carry out the recommendations of the Home Office in connection with the storage of petroleum spirit.

Early in the Year several samples of paraffin were taken to ascertain the flashpoint of them as this determines whether or not its storage comes within the provisions of the Petroleum Acts. All the results of these samples showed them to have a flashpoint of over 73°F.

12.—PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The erection of Public Conveniences at Cam was commenced.

13.—CAR PARKS

Water Street

The demolition of Houses at Water Street and Bowers Court were carried out during the Year and the surfacing with gravel of the immediate area of the Water Street Houses was carried out for use as a Car Park.

14.—PLAYING FIELDS

Highfields Playing Field

The area surrounding the children's see-saw and swings was surfaced with Tarmacadam.

15.—COUNCIL OFFICES

Estimates were prepared for the re-surfacing of the approaches, forecourt and builder's yard at the Council's Office, Kingshill, and the work carried out.

As a result of the Ministry of Food surrendering their tenancy of two rooms at Kingshill House the Architectural Assistant was moved from the Ground Floor to the office on the first floor and the remaining Office earmarked for toilet accommodation for male Officers and Councillors, and plans prepared accordingly.

16.—PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

During the Year the following work has been carried out under the above Act by the Pests Officer :—

Number of inspections of Private Premises	1558
Number of inspections of Business Premises ...	265
Number of inspections of Farms	24
Number of inspections of Council Properties ...	24
Number of treatments carried out at Private Premises	171
Number of treatments carried out at Business Premises	227
Number of treatments of Council Properties	10

In addition to inspections and treatments carried out as a result of complaints, a systematic inspection of the District has been continued. The parishes of Nympsfield, Stinchcombe and Coaley have been inspected; the inspection of the parish of Wotton-under-Edge has been completed, and an inspection of the parish of Uley commenced.

Fewer farms were inspected than in 1951. This was as a direct result of Foot and Mouth Disease during the Summer months as it was felt advisable that the Pests Officer should not go from farm to farm during an outbreak at nearby farms.

The liaison between our Pests Officer and the Pests Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has been maintained. This has resulted in a number of successful joint treatments being carried out.

The poison "Warfarin" has been used extensively during the Year with very satisfactory results. Although the cost of Warfarin is higher than that of a straight poison, and the length of treatment with it longer, it is estimated that a 100% kill has been achieved in most cases, obviating the necessity for a second treatment.

As a result of the routine inspection of the District an increasing number of people become aware of the Pest Service that is available to them. This has become evident owing to the increase in the number of complaints received, and the interest that is shown in the method of treatment. It is obvious, too, that the public are becoming more conscious of the risk of food being contaminated by rodents.

Regular inspections have been made of the Synwell Refuse Tip and no treatments have been found necessary.

During the Year a series of treatments have been carried out at a Wild Bird reserve. Difficulty had been experienced in carrying out treatments owing to the danger to bird life. The difficulty was overcome by the use of a pressure pump and cyanide powder for certain banks. In addition properly constructed baiting boxes were used as well as a series of agricultural pipes buried in the ground; this enabled baits to be placed in positions inaccessible to bird life. Good results were obtained.

A test bait of the Wotton-under-Edge Sewage system was made in March; 16 manholes out of a total of 150 being baited. This sewage system was found to be free of rat infestation.

In March a test bait of the section of the Dursley sewage system was made in the Post Office area where an infestation had existed and had been treated previously. The test bait showed that the infestation had been cleared.

17.—SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTORS' VISITS AND NOTICES SERVED DURING 1952

GENERAL SANITATION

	No. of Inspections or visits
Water Supply	69
Drainage	463
Stables and Piggeries	6
Fried Fish Shops	1
Factories	38
Bakehouses	30
Public Conveniences	65
Refuse Collection	173
Refuse Disposal	306
Rats and Mice	27
Shops	11
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	177
Moveable Dwellings	30
Sewage Disposal	149
Storage of Petroleum	141
Trade Effluents	13
Disinfection	6
Licensed Premises	21
Mortuary	15
Schools	1
Salvage	24
Pet Shops	1
Fume Nuisance	2

HOUSING

Under Public Health Acts.	
No. of Houses inspected	96
Visit paid to above houses	718
Under Housing Acts	
No. of Houses inspected	6
Visits paid to above houses	25
Overcrowding.	
No. of Houses inspected	1
Miscellaneous Housing visits	164

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Inquiries in cases of I.D.	45
Visits re Disinfection	31

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Visits to Slaughterhouses	2
Visits to :	
Butchers	14

	No. of Inspections or visits.
Grocers	30
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	12
Dairies and Milkshops	49
Ice Cream Premises	77
Restaurants	3
Condemnation of Food	42
Visits in connection with Sampling:	
Milk—Bacteriological	74
Milk—Tubercle Bacilli	6
Milk—Pasteurised	5
Milk—Chemical	2
Ice Cream	46
Ice Lollies	11
Bottle Rinses	6
Miscellaneous Milk visits	41
Miscellaneous Food visits	16

NOTICES SERVED

No. of Informal Notices Served	121
No. of Informal Notices complied with	53
No of Statutory Notices served	10
No. of Statutory Notices complied with	5

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. J. DIMERY,

Engineer and Surveyor and Chief
Sanitary Inspector.

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